A Lectotype for *Paracymus armatus* (Sharp) (Coleoptera: Hydrophilidae)

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During a study of the species of *Paracymus* of Central America and Mexico it became necessary to fix the identity of *Paracymus armatus* (Sharp) because of some confusion in the literature concerning this species. The original description includes the information that the apices of the elytra are broadly yellow, but it does not indicate whether the yellow margin is sharply or diffusely defined.

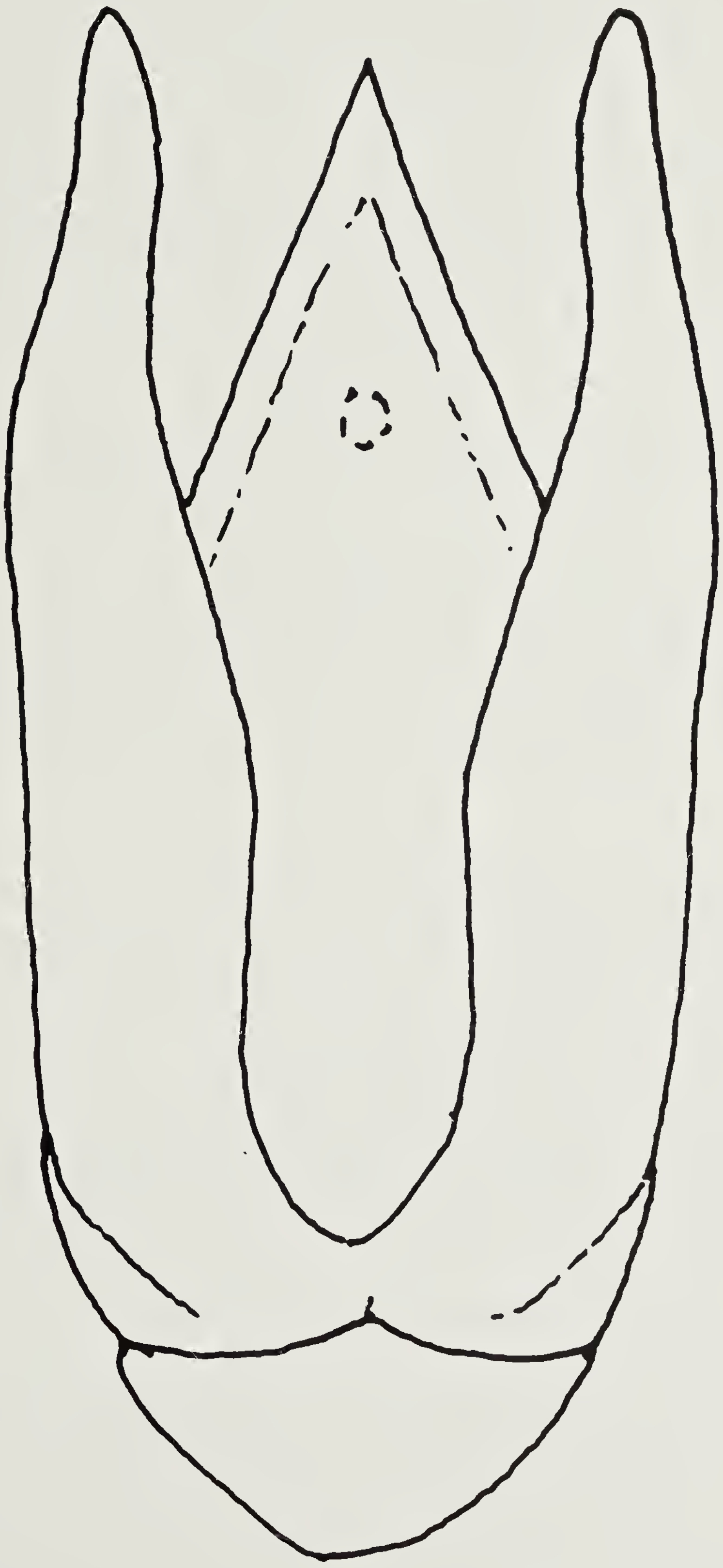

Figure 1. Genitalia of *Paracymus armatus* lectotype.

Reference to the type of this species in the British Museum (Natural History) revealed that all members of that series had the pale border diffusely defined. One member of the type series is a dissected male, and it is this specimen here designated lectotype.

Paracymus armatus **(Sharp)**

Hydrobius armatus Sharp, 1882: 64.

LECTOTYPE, here designated: Male. Chontales, Nicaragua Jansen. British Museum (Natural History).

Description: Length 1.8 mm, width 1.0 mm, form elongate, oval. Head shining black, lightly bronzed; punctation fine and sparse. Pronotum dark testaceous on disk, lighter toward sides, yellow-brown along margins; punctation very faint; posterior angles rounded. Elytra dark testaceous on disk, broadly lighter on sides, gradually shading to yellow-brown at apex; punctation sparse, slightly more impressed than on pronotum. Venter dark testaceous. Maxillary palpi light testaceous, except last segment darker at tip. Labial palpi light testaceous. Antennae light testaceous, except club dark testaceous; seven segmented. Legs red-brown, except knees and tibia yellow-brown on first pair. Mesofemora pubescent on basal 2/3. Protarsi unmodified. Prosternal carina laminate across entire width. Mesosternal lamina well developed and reaching the mesosternal crest. First abdominal segmant carinate across width. Aedeagus broad and flat, tapering for about 1/3 its length to an acute point. Parameres rounded at tip; inner, upper margin sinuously curved, outer margin straight along 3/4 its length, then curving slightly inward at tip. See Figure 1.

The lectotype also bears a label: B. C. A. Col. I. 2.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to thank Mr. J. Balfour-Browne and Dr. R. D. Pope, both of the British Museum (Natural History), the former for examining the type series for me, and the later for graciously lending me the specimen here designated as lectotype.

LITERATURE CITED

SHARP, D. 1882. Biologia centrali-americana. Insecta. Coleoptera 1 (Part 2), pp. xv + 140, 4 pls.

FIELD NOTE

An unusual concentration of Anobiidae.—In the evenings of June 19, 21, and July 8, 1968, my wife Janice and I collected, by hand, 124 specimens of Anobiidae. The area of collection is rather low, moist ground beside a small stream 5 miles south of Alexandria, Virginia, and is partially wooded with typical deciduous trees, and fairly open areas of weeds and marsh grasses. The collecting took place between 7:00 and 8:40 P.M. and totalled 80 minutes for the three evenings. The beetles were on the low foliage of dogwood, sweet gum, walnut, oak, and other plants. The greatest concentration was on the dogwood with over half of the total number of specimens from leaves of this plant; they were second in numbers on sweet gum. The beetles were resting or walking about on the surface of the leaves, and none were seen to be feeding or mating. All of the beetles were found within a radius of about 10 feet, and within a few inches to nearly six feet above the ground. Nearby areas of similar plant composition were examined but no concentration of Anobiidae was found. Collecting was attempted after the above dates but with little or no success.

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